



Ministry of Northern
Development and Mines

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News Release

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines



Ontario

Northern Ontario
Heritage Fund

Fonds du patrimoine
du Nord de l'Ontario

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Ontario Invests In Kirkland Lake Diversification Project - #955109

Investment Will Promote Local Economic Development

SUDBURY – The Ontario government is strengthening northern prosperity by investing in a study that will recommend ways to diversify Kirkland Lake's resource-based economy, Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci announced today.

"I am pleased that our government is supporting an initiative focused on economic diversification and long-term sustainability," said Bartolucci. "By supporting this project, we are assisting the community in identifying new opportunities for prosperity in the area."

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) will invest \$23,589 to help the Town of Kirkland Lake assess existing and potential strengths, engage local businesses, public and specific interest groups, and identify issues and opportunities to facilitate community economic development.

"We're on the side of northerners. That's why we are investing in projects that will help expand local economies," said David Ramsay, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP "By helping communities redefine their economies, we are laying foundations for future growth and prosperity."

Other McGuinty government initiatives for northerners include:

- Investing over \$33 million to date, through the NOHFC in water system upgrades to ensure quality drinking water across Northern Ontario
- Opening the first Northern Ontario School of Medicine, to help alleviate the doctor shortage
- A \$1.8-billion investment, over the next five years, in upgraded and expanded northern highways.

These initiatives are part of the government's Northern Prosperity Plan for building stronger northern communities. The Northern Prosperity Plan has four pillars: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All. Since 2003, investments in infrastructure, postsecondary education, research and innovation and key economic sectors have strengthened Ontario's economic advantage and continue to build opportunity.

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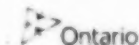
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